

Marshland Rural District Council

1969

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. McD. HANLEY

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

AND

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A. L. WESLEY

F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

District Council Offices
Alexandra Road,
Wisbech.

MARSHLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman (Councillor S. Booley), the Vice Chairman (Councillor C.L. Burman) and the full Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH -

J. McD. Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S. D.P.H.

Local Health Office,
Area No. 7,
48, Howdale Road,
DOWNHAM MARKET,
Norfolk.

Telephone - Downham Market 3241/2

Also holds appointments of -

County Departmental Medical Officer

School Medical Officer

Medical Officer of Health, Downham Market Urban District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Downham Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, King's Lynn Borough Council

Medical Officer of Health, Freebridge Lynn District Council

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR-

A. L. Wesley, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND ASSISTANT SURVEYOR -

H.J. Hill, M.A.P.H.I. to June, 1969

M.W. Whitehead, M.A.P.H.I. from August, 1969

CLERK -

Mrs. A. Copeland to October, 1969

Miss L. Griffiths from October, 1969

MARSHLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Council I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1969.

As a result of the death of the Medical Officer of Health for King's Lynn and Freebridge Rural District Council, Dr. C.T. Jones, in January, Norfolk County Council re-organised the administrative arrangements for our area and I was appointed Medical Officer of Health for King's Lynn and Freebridge Rural District Council in addition to my other appointments.

Vital Statistics and Vaccination Statistics

I think these are satisfactory. There is no sign of any health hazard in our area.

Measles Vaccination

You will notice that 468 children were vaccinated, but this is only a modest portion of those entitled to this protection. Unfortunately, one particular preparation of the vaccine gave rise to alarming reactions and the Department of Health and Social Security forbade all vaccinations with this type of vaccine until safety could be assured.

As a result our campaign for measles vaccination had to be curtailed until sufficient supplies of safe vaccine would be obtained. I hope that we may be able to give complete protection to all our children next year.

B.C.G. Vaccination

Again showed that there was no source of infection here.

Health Education continues to be an important part of our duties. Mothercraft, self-examination, cancer education anti-smoking information, diet, mental health, the school health service and county health services are the recurring topics we are asked about.

Finally, I would like to record my appreciation for the assistance and support I have had during the year from the Clerk, Public Health Inspectors and members of the Local Health Office Staff.

J. McD. Hanley,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	56,562
Population in 1931.	15,350
Population in 1951 (Census)	16,567
Population in 1969 estimated mid-year home population .	17,760
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1969.	6,191
Rateable value 1969	£405,612
Product of a penny rate 1969	£1,596

LIVE BIRTHS 275

Rate per 1,000 population	15.8
Ditto for Administrative County	16.3
Ditto for England and Wales	16.3
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	7

DEATHS (All causes) 182

Rate per 1,000 population	11.3
Ditto for Administrative County	10.1
Ditto for England and Wales	11.9

STILL BIRTHS 3

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	11
Ditto for Administrative County	13
Ditto for England and Wales	13

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS 278

INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under one year) 6

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births . .	22
Ditto for Administrative County	16
Ditto for England and Wales	18
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births	23
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	NIL

(EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE)

(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Live Births)	22
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NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total Live Births)	22
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PERI-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(Still Births and Deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	32
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MATERNAL MORTALITY (Including Abortion)

Number of Deaths	NIL
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	NIL



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SECTION B

1. County Medical Services

a. District Nurses

This year's report does not include names of Nurses showing Parishes and Villages served. There are quite obviously changes throughout the year and current information will be readily supplied by the Local Health Office (Telephone Downham Market 3241 & 2).

b. Health Visitors

This service is at present undergoing changes with Health Visitors on attachment to General Practitioners. Until the whole structure has become stabilized it is obviously impracticable to give detailed information. Again this will be supplied on request at the Local Health Office.

c. Ambulance and Hospital Car Services

All ambulances are now under overall supervision by the Ambulance Control Centre, County Hall, Norwich.

The Area is covered by the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn. Telephone King's Lynn 4686 and Emergency King's Lynn 4298/9.

Infectious Diseases cases are conveyed by King's Lynn or Norwich Infectious Disease Ambulances.

The Hospital Car Service is administered from the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn (Telephone King's Lynn 3503 and 3910).

d. Child Health Clinics

(i)	Walpole St. Peter	2nd Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(ii)	West Walton	2nd Wednesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(iii)	Terrington St. Clement	3rd Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(iv)	Clenchwarton	Last Mondays	2 - 4 p.m.
(v)	Emneth	Last Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(vi)	Tilney St. Lawrence	Last Thursdays	2 - 4 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance at the above Sessions.

In addition Weighing Clinics are held monthly at the following villages - Upwell and Three Holes

e. Home Help Service

Applications for Home Help assistance should be made to

the Local Health Office, Downham Market. This service is expanding steadily and at the present time 55 Home Helps are working within my Local Health Area.

f. Vaccination and Immunisation

Shown below are figures for immunisations carried out by general practitioners and medical staff in my Local Health Area during 1969. This area also embraces Downham Urban and Downham Rural District.

Smallpox Vaccination

Primary Vaccination	Total	Revaccination	Total
Under 5 5 - 15		Under 5 5 - 15	
231 10	241	5 11	16

Tetanus

Primary Courses	Total	Reinforcing Doses	Total
Under 8 8 - 15		Under 8 8 - 15	
407 13	420	769 595	1364

Whooping Cough

Primary Courses	Total	Reinforcing Doses	Total
Under 8 8 - 15		Under 8 8 - 15	
354 Nil	354	246 3	249

Diphtheria

Primary Courses	Total	Reinforcing Doses	Total
Under 8 8 - 15		Under 8 8 - 15	
403 1	404	752 258	1010

The following table shows the results of the experiments conducted on the effect of the concentration of the solution on the rate of reaction. The rate of reaction was measured by the volume of gas evolved per unit time. The concentration of the solution was varied by changing the volume of the solution and the volume of water added. The results are given in the table below.

Experiment	Concentration of solution (g/l)	Volume of gas evolved (cm ³)	Time taken (s)	Rate of reaction (cm ³ /s)
1	10	10	10	1.0
2	20	20	10	2.0
3	30	30	10	3.0
4	40	40	10	4.0
5	50	50	10	5.0
6	60	60	10	6.0
7	70	70	10	7.0
8	80	80	10	8.0
9	90	90	10	9.0
10	100	100	10	10.0

Poliomyelitis

Primary Courses	Total	Reinforcing Doses	Total
Under 8 8 - 15 383 4	387	Under 8 8 - 15 589 345	934

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number given the preliminary skin test	Number Vaccinated	Number referred for Chest X-ray
408	363	-

Measles Vaccination

Under 8 8 - 15	Total
227 241	468

2. General Medical Services

Norfolk Executive Council, Horse Fair House,
17, St. Faith's Lane, Norwich.

Clerk - F.H. Adams, Esq.

3. Venereal Disease Clinic

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

Males

Tuesdays - 5.30 p.m.
Fridays - 4.30 p.m.

Females and Children

Tuesdays - 3 p.m.
Fridays - 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

4. Disinfection and Disinfestation

Treatment of premises and articles is carried out by
the Senior Public Health Inspector's Staff.

5. Laboratory Services

- (a) Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.
Under the direction of Dr. I.M. Dowsett.
- (b) Public Analyst,
Dr. Eric Wood, PhD., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,
Clarence House, 6, Clarence Road, Norwich.
- (c) Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1969

Table No. 1

CAUSES OF DEATH		M	F	Total
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	-	2
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	2	2
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	2	3
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4	7
B19(4)	Malignant neoplasm, intestine	3	2	5
B19(5)	Malignant neoplasm, larynx	-	1	1
B19(6)	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	-	8
B19(7)	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
B19(8)	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
B19(9)	Malignant neoplasm, prostate	1	-	1
B19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-	1
B19(11)	Other Malignant neoplasms	2	5	7
B21	Diabetes mellitus	2	-	2
B46(1)	Other endocrine etc. diseases	1	-	1
B23	Anaemias	2	-	2
B46(4)	Other diseases of nervous system	3	-	3
B26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	2	2
B27	Hypertensive disease	3	-	3
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	21	16	37
B29	Other forms of heart disease	7	6	13
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	8	16	24
B46(5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	6	5	11
B31	Influenza	2	1	3
B32	Pneumonia	4	7	11
B33(1)	Bronchitis and emphysema	4	3	7
B33(2)	Asthma	-	1	1
B34	Peptic ulcer	-	1	1
B46(7)	Other diseases of digestive system	2	-	2
B39	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2

B46(8)	Other diseases, genito-urinary system . . .	1	-	1
B46(10)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system . . .	-	1	1
B42	Congenital anomalies	1	2	3
B44	Other causes of perinatal mortality . . .	2	2	4
B45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions . . .	1	1	2
BE48	All other accidents	-	2	2
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries . . .	1	-	1
BE50	All other external causes	1	-	1
Total of all causes		94	88	182

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1969

<u>Notifications</u>		
M	F	Total
Measles (excluding rubella)	16 15	31
Dysentery	- -	-
Scarlet Fever	2 2	4
Diphtheria	- -	-
Acute Meningitis	- 1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	- -	-
Acute Poliomyelitis - Non-Paralytic	- -	-
Smallpox	- -	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	- -	-
Anthrax	- -	-
Yellow Fever	- -	-
Acute Encephalitis - Infective	- -	-
Post-infective	- -	-
Leptospirosis	- -	-
Paratyphoid Fever	- -	-
Food Poisoning	2 1	3
Whooping Cough	- -	-
Tetanus	- -	-
Infective Jaundice	2 -	2
Total of all cases	22 19	41

Table No. 3

NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS1969

New Cases				Deaths			
Age in Years	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	TOTAL
	Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	
-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-65	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-	1

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1969.

The cesspool emptying service was again fully stretched to meet the increasing demand and to cope with the extra mileage caused by concentrating disposal of cesspool contents at the Borough Sewage Farm, Walpole Marsh.

Satisfactory progress was made on the Clenchwarton and Terrington St. Clement Sewerage Scheme and work was commenced on the new outfall works at King's Lynn which will receive the flow from this scheme.

A Technical enquiry was held at Wisbech into Phase 1 of the Regional Sewerage Scheme providing for the Parishes of Tilney St. Lawrence, Terrington St. John, Walpole Highway, West Walton, Walsoken and Emneth. This sewerage system will discharge to a new Sewage Works at West Walton to be constructed by the Wisbech Borough Council.

The Department had two staff changes during the year, Mr. J. Hill leaving in June to take up a similar appointment to Belford Rural District Council and Mr. M.W. Whitehead joining in August after service with Smallburgh Rural District Council. Mrs. Copeland (Clerk) also left in October after six years service and was replaced by Miss Griffiths. My thanks are due to these officers for their loyal service.

WATER SUPPLY -

This service is provided by the Wisbech and District Water Board.

The following information has kindly been supplied by Mr. J.S. Collins, Chemist and Bacteriologist, Wisbech and District Water Board:-

The water supplied to the Marshland Rural District comes from one source:-

(a) The Board's Marham Works.

Frequent bacteriological examinations have been undertaken during 1969 on samples from the Board's Marham Works, Beechamwell Pumping Station and Margarett Bridge Pumping Station and the distribution system in this area. The results have been of a very high standard.

All new mains were sterilised, samples taken and bacteriological examinations made before the mains were put into service. No connections were permitted until the water in the mains was of the highest standard of purity.

A sample taken on the 24th November, 1969 from the 18" main at Marham Station (Marham Mixed Treated Water) on which a fluoride estimation was carried out, had a fluoride content of 0.02 parts per million (as F). The fluoride content of a sample of chlorinated water from Beechamwell Pumping Station taken on the 29th December, 1969, was NIL.

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND ANALYSES

<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Bacteriological Examinations</u>			<u>Chemical</u>
	<u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Taken</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Negative</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Positive</u>	<u>Analyses</u>
Board's Works Raw Waters	247	238	9	
Board's Works Treated Waters	420	420	-	
Margaretta Bridge Pumping Station	163	163	-	
Consumers' Taps	223	223	-	
Totals	1,053	1,044	9	109
Total of all examinations and analyses 1,162				

Out of the total of Board's treated water samples, samples taken at Margaretta Bridge Pumping Station and samples taken from consumers' taps, 100% were negative on examination for organisms of the coliform group. This represents a continued very high standard of bacterial purity.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL -

Cesspools, privy vaults and septic tanks, with sewage disposal plants on the larger Council Housing Sites, are the main methods of disposal.

The cesspool emptying service was operated by three vehicles, two 1,500 and one 1,100 gallon capacity until October when a new 1,500 gallon Emptier came into service which were fully employed in coping with the demand from both Council and private properties. Regular de-sludging of the Council's sewage plants serving Council housing sites was also carried out.

During the year, disposal was restricted to the Borough Sewage Farm at Walpole Marsh and this meant that longer hauls had to be made especially from the South of the District. However, the dryer weather conditions helped and a reasonable service was maintained.

The following work was carried out during the year:

<u>Cesspools</u>	<u>Privy Vaults</u>	<u>Housing Sewage Plants</u>
3,893	74	466 loads

It is interesting to note the decrease in the emptying of privy vaults, which shows steady progress in conversion of vaults to water closets.

Work continued on the Clenchwarton and Terrington St. Clement Sewerage Scheme and reasonable progress was made.

Full liaison was continued with the Council's Resident Engineer regarding provision of laterals, dealing with minor complaints from the public, etc.

RIVER POLLUTION PREVENTION ACTS -

The district continues to be controlled by the two main Internal Drainage Boards of the Marshland Fen and West of Ouse together with the Middle Level Commissioners with outfalls controlled by the River Boards of the Nene and Ouse.

FRUIT PICKERS' QUARTERS AND SEASONAL WORKERS - CARAVANS -

The problem of housing and siting caravans for seasonal workers still exists. Periodical visits to sites were continued and except for a few isolated cases a reasonable state of cleanliness and order was maintained. During the year, four sites catering for students were in use.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During August a survey of the Anglers' Camps at Outwell and Upwell was made and a report made to the Norfolk County Council.

There are seventeen licensed individual caravans in the district, but no residential site in excess of one now exists.

INFESTATION BY PESTS

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| (a) Bed Bugs | No reports of infestation were received. |
| (b) Fleas | No cases were reported or found. |
| (c) Flies | No major problems arose. The joint refuse tip was treated by the Department and individual cases were dealt with by modern insecticides. |
| (d) Cockroaches | No cases of infestation were reported. |

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS

A rodent operator is not employed by the Council. There were no heavy infestations reported. The Department maintained a constant watch over the refuse tip and baiting continued regularly. Advice was given to various persons reporting infestations and in some cases help was given by the Department in controlling infestation on premises.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council continued a weekly kerbside collection in the district and full use of the service was made by householders.

Use of the former Wisbech canal was continued and by December a length of approximately 9,550 feet had been filled. This tip is receiving the refuse from the Borough of Wisbech and Marshland and Wisbech Rural District Councils. Measures were taken against fly and rodent infestation and injurious weeds were cut down on the filled section. Trade refuse was accepted under the control of the Surveyors.

During the year, arrangements were made for the short-term letting of approximately eleven acres of the filled portion of the former Wisbech canal to the adjoining owners. The major part of this was cultivated and produced crops thus relieving the Joint Refuse Committee of dealing with injurious weeds, etc.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

252 visits were made to all types of food premises during the year.

No. of Premises to which Food Hygiene Regs. 1960 apply.	Number of Premises fitted with Wash-Hand Basins	No. of Premises to comply with Reg. 19. F.H. Regs. 1960
109	109	105

No. of Premises complying with Regulation, 19	No. of Premises Registered to sell Ice Cream
105	49

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the district.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES - Meat Inspection

No slaughterhouses were in operation during the year and no progress was made on the premises under construction at Walpole St. Peter.

POULTRY INSPECTION -

Two poultry processing premises have been in use. Both have a small throughput, in one case, poultry and other ducklings, and inspections were made.

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED -

55 fluid ozs.	Ice-Cream
4lbs. 10ozs.	Frozen Vegetables
11lbs.	Frozen Fish
5lbs. 11ozs.	Frozen Meat
1½lbs.	Puffed Pastry (frozen)
1lb. 6ozs.	Raspberries (frozen)

MILK AND DAIRIES -

Milk samples were taken by the staff of the County Council.

OFFENSIVE TRADES -

There is one licensed knacker's yard in the area at Terrington St. John and conditions continued satisfactorily.

HOUSING

Some small progress was made on the Slum Clearance programme and appreciation should be recorded of the Council's help in this respect. By arrangement with the Housing Officer, applicants rehoused from properties were notified to my department. Inspection of these houses was made and appropriate action taken either by closing or for repairs to be carried out. Development by Private Enterprise and Council went ahead and I give below the number of new dwellings completed.

Houses and Bungalows completed by the Council - 39
Houses and Bungalows completed by Private Enterprise - 64

258 plans were submitted to the department during the year for approval under the Building Regulations, 1965.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS DURING 1969

<u>Parish</u>	Closing Orders made	Under/ takings accepted	Demolition Orders made	Demolition by Formal/ Informal action	C.Orders & D.Orders deter- mined
Clenchwarton	4	-	1	-	-
Emneth	2	-	-	3	-
Marshland St. James	-	1	-	-	-
Outwell	2	-	-	-	2
Terrington St. Clement	2	-	-	3	1
Terrington St. John	-	-	-	-	1
Tilney All Saints	-	-	-	-	-
Tilney St. Lawrence	-	-	-	-	-
Upwell	-	-	-	2	-
Walpole St. Andrew	1	-	2	-	-
Walpole St. Peter	1	-	-	-	1
Walsoken	-	-	2	-	-
West Walton	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	12	1	5	8	5

HOUSING REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENT GRANTS:

It was found necessary to serve informal notices on owners of properties to carry out certain essential repairs and all these were carried out without the service of statutory notices.

Standard Grants

Applications approved - 43

Discretionary Grants

Applications approved - 4

Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Council's Architect in consultation with this Department regarding slum clearance etc.

It will be noted that five Closing/Demolition Orders were determined during the year and most of these installed bathrooms with the aid of a Standard Grant.

FACTORIES

No formal action was necessary. The numbers of factories and bakehouses registered in the District are as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Number with Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Number with no Mechanical Power</u>
Clenchwarton	2	-
Emneth	10	1
Marshland St. James	2	-
Outwell	3	-
Terrington St. Clement	7	-
Terrington St. John	4	-
Tilney All Saints	2	1
Tilney St. Lawrence	4	-
Upwell	6	2
Walpole St. Andrew	7	1
Walpole St. Peter	4	1
Walsoken	2	-
West Walton	3	-
TOTALS	56	6

1.	Number of Visits made	47
2.	Number of Notices issued	-
3.	Prosecutions	-
4.	Types of defect found and by whom reported.	2 (Sanitary Accommodation Factory Inspector)
5.	Action taken to remedy defects	2
6.	Number of Outworkers	6

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

58 premises comprising retail shops, small offices, fuel storage depots are registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

10 premises were reinspected during the year and where not complying with the Act, informal notices were served.

NUISANCES - General Complaints - Routine Visits etc.

Summary of Visits - 1969

Building Regulations	1,879
Sub-soil Drainage	72
Movable Dwellings	53
Factories	47
Bakehouses	3
Refuse Collection and Disposal	374
Rodent Control	143
Petroleum	25
Housing	190
Slaughterhouses	1
Food Premises	252
Infectious Disease	7
Miscellaneous	107
Planning Acts	103
Improvement Grants	61
Street Numbering and Naming	47
Civic Amenities Act	9
Offices and Shops	10

A.L. Wesley,
Senior Public Health Inspector
and Surveyor.

